



Highdown Bulletin

w/c 10 June 2024 Week B



A warm welcome to term 6! I hope students and families had a lovely bank holiday and half term break. You will notice a slightly different feel about this newsletter and those to follow this term, as we trial a more succinct weekly bulletin providing you with key updates and information for the upcoming week. We will share an end of term celebration publication to recognise the wide range of events and student achievements from this term. We will, of course, seek your views on this approach later in the term.

Please can I ask for your continued support regarding our mobile phone policy. If our students bring a mobile phone to school, these must be switched off and kept in their bag for the duration of the school day. Similarly, students are expected to continue to wear their school blazer, although we will review this as and when the temperatures rise. On the subject of rising temperatures, a reminder to students to bring a water bottle to school, top ups should take place during break and lunchtimes, and not during lesson times. If students choose to wear shorts to school, a reminder that these must be black, plain and with a formal cut, any other style, including PE shorts, are not acceptable.

We have just six weeks remaining of the academic year, finishing on Friday 19th July. Where has the year gone!? We still have a term jam-

packed term ahead, with sports day, transition days, Year 5 taster day, our annual literary festival, dance competitions, careers events, a dance show, some residential visits, and so much more!

It's also an important year in politics, both at home and abroad, and our A-Level politics students are busy organising a mock election at Highdown which will run alongside the UK elections. This is a fantastic opportunity for all our young people to learn about politics and democracy, and we are thrilled to be promoting their engagement with this fundamental aspect of our society. This week, the students have been working on their manifestos in preparation for canvassing, hustings and speeches (to take place during assemblies), culminating with a real ballot for the whole school on the real election day, Thursday 4th July. Please take the time to discuss the Highdown elections with your children, hopefully it will spark some interesting conversations at home.

Don't forget to follow our social media streams for lots of photos of what we are doing in school, including the election campaigns. The links to which are at the bottom of the page. Wishing everyone a great weekend.

M A Grantham
Head of School



Follow us



Highdown Bulletin

THIS WEEK

Wednesday 11 June	Year 7-9 House Drama Competition
	Year 7/8 Junior Kangaroos and Olympiad Maths Challenge
Thursday 13 June	Sports Day Selection (Vertical Mentor Groups)
	House Drama Competition—Book Tickets via Class Charts
Friday 14 June	Sports Day Selection (Vertical Mentor Groups)
	Summer Showcase—Book tickets via Class Charts

COMING UP

Mon 17 June	Year 10 Geography River Fieldwork
Tues 18 June	Year 8 & 9 History for All—Reading University
	Little Shop of Horrors Drama Trip
Weds 19 June	Year 10 Geography River Fieldwork
Thurs 20 June	Year 10 Geography River Fieldwork
Fri 21 June	The Great Get Together—more details on next page!!
Thurs 27 June	Year 6 Transition Day
	Year 11 Prom
Fri 28 June	INSET Day—Academy Closed to Students



HOUSE POINTS

Mapledurham	142,058
Grove	141,697
Rosehill	138258
Caversham	142,292






Highdown Bulletin

22nd April,
13th May,
10th June,
1st July

Week 2

Summer Menu

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
 From £2.70 MAINS <i>fresh flavours</i>	BURGER BAR Quarter Pounder Beef Burger (G,Se) Spicy Chicken Burger (G,Se,Mu) Falafel Burger (G,Se) All Served in a Sesame Seed Bun Add Mayonnaise (E), Shredded Iceberg, Fried Onions, Ketchup Chips / Oven Chips Onion Rings (G) Extras Sliced Cheese (Mk) Pineapple Fried Egg (E)	CARIBBEAN Jamaican Chicken and Pineapple Tray bake Jerk Pulled Pork with Tortilla (G) and Banana Salsa Tofu and Mango Jamaican Stew (So,Mk) Caribbean Coleslaw (So,Mk,E) Coconut Rice and Peas (Su) Reggae Reggae Baked Sweet Potato Wedges (Mu)	Beef Chilli Con Carne (Mu) with Sour Cream (Mk) and Crushed Nachos Steamed Rice Vegetarian Mince Chilli (Non-Carne) (So,Ce), Served with Tortilla Chips (G,Mu), Sour Cream (Mk) and Jalapenos Steamed Rice	FISH & CHIP SHOP Battered Fish Fillet (G,F) Cheese and Onion Paste (G,So,Mk) "Chip Butty" (G,Se,Mk) Jumbo Sausage (G,Su) Fish Fingers (G,F,E) Oven Baked Chips Garden Peas Baked Bean Curry Sauce (Mk) Chunky Tartare Sauce (Su,E) Ketchup and Lemon
	Portuguese Peri Peri Chicken with Coleslaw and potato Wedges (Su,E) Peri Peri Cauliflower Steaks with Coleslaw and Potato Wedges (Su,E)			

From £2.20 GLOBAL EATS

- MONDAY**
Korean Meatballs with Noodles (G,So,Se,E)
- TUESDAY**
Lamb Shish Kebab and Salad (G,So,Mk,E)
- WEDNESDAY**
Tandoori Chicken with mango chutney and coriander salad (G,Mk,E)
- THURSDAY**
Hot & Spicy Chicken Wrap (G,Su)
- FRIDAY**
Fish and chip Shop

From £2.25 PASTA BAR

- SERVED EVERYDAY**
Freshly Cooked Pasta:
Slow Cooked Beef Bolognese (G)
Tomato and Basil (G) or Mac 'n' Cheese (G,Mk)
Served with:
Home baked Garlic Bread (G,So,Mk)
Pesto (Mk)
Cheese (Mk)

From £1.15 DESSERT

Selection of home bakes, flapjacks, cookies, sponges, jelly and fruit pots

deliciously good food.
At the heart of everything we do is our love of good, fresh and healthy food, prepared by a team who cares!

every week
Look out for our
Theme Bars

JACKET POTATOES
WITH ALL THE BEST TOPPING!

SALAD BAR
Fresh every day packed with tasty choices!

MEAL DEAL
Check out what's on offer today!
Available for Free School Meals

ALLERGENS
we're allergy aware!
Ce = Celery
Cr = Crustacean
E = Eggs
F = Fish
G = Cereals containing Gluten
L = Lupin
Mk = Milk
Ma = Molluscs
Mu = Mustard
N = Nuts
P = Peanuts
Se = Sesame Seeds
So = Soya
Su = Sulphur Dioxide

Speak to one of our chefs if you have any allergies.

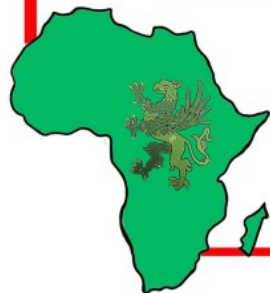
21st June 2024

THE GREAT GET TOGETHER CULTURE DAY

Coming together to explore and celebrate Highdown's diverse community.

This year, The Great Get Together is a celebration of Highdown's diverse culture! During our Culture Day, students will have a culture themed celebration during the school day, followed by an after school event in our Walled Garden (friends and family welcome). To register your interest in having a stall at this event (for example to share cultural foods, clothing, crafts and more!), please complete the form [HERE](#) and a member of our Sixth Form will be in contact with you.

The after school event will run from 3:15pm - 4:30pm in the Barn and Walled Garden...see you there!





Highdown Bulletin



Stars of the Week

Year 7

7C - Aidan Blair
7D - Jacob Volker
7E - Millie Johnson
7F - Charis Salisbury
7G - Lylia da paz slade
7H - Tiana Wong
7J - Max Church
7K - Taylor Smith
7L - Lara Newton

Year 8

8C - Usher Sandhu
8D - Vedant Jaiman
8E - Ralph Mackereth
8F - Emily Mackie
8G - Kimi France-Miller
8H - Florence Hastings
8J - Theo Collins
8K - Lola Sadler
8L - Jack Morgan

Year 9

9C - Ueja Rukoro
9D - Jordan Jobin
9E - Finn Scott
9F - Merlin Critchfield
9G - George Busby
9H - Fletcher Bramley
9J - Ethan Yim
9K - Lucy Sampson
9L - Nik Wong
Miss Robinson - Scarlett Hepwood

Year 10

10C - Isaac Ford
10D - Ella Matthews
10E - Raphael Garcia
10F - Jude Lambourne
10G - Juan Dreyer
10H - Chloe SEEDS
10J - Oisin Thorne
10K - Sueda Copursan
10L - Theo Bingley





Highdown Bulletin



20—24 May 2024

Weekly Attendance

Highest attended day of the week...

Wednesday

Highest attending year group rankings:

Year 7, Year 8, Year 10, Year 9, Year 11

House positions for highest attendance last week

1. Caversham

3. Grove

2. Mapledurham

4. Rosehill

Mentor groups whose attendance has improved this week:

7L

8C

8D

9C

9E

9J

9L

10G

If you have any questions or are experiencing anything that may impact attendance please do get in touch with our attendance officer to gain advice and support
hesmith@highdown.reading.sch.uk



Thank you to all our students and families for your continued efforts in supporting attendance!



Highdown Bulletin

FREE SATURDAY CLUBS AT READING COLLEGE

Join the [Art&Design](#), [Film&Screen](#) or [Fashion&Business](#) Saturday Clubs at **Reading College** on Saturdays from 10.00-13.00 12th October 2024 until March 2025. It's **free** and open to 13-16 year olds of all abilities. As well as weekly Saturday Classes you will have the chance to go on trips and visits, take part in Masterclasses with industry, and exhibit your work in the @natsatclub Summer Show! Find out more and apply to join: saturday-club.org/join

UPSKILL SUMMER WEBINAR

InvestIN Parent, Student & Teacher Event: Preparing for Success this Summer 19 June 2024, 7pm

As the summer approaches, it is a great time for students to start thinking about how they will be spending their holidays wisely. To get a head start on their futures, students can use this time to upskill and gain valuable experiences that will boost future applications. Parents and Teachers can also be championing these preparations for success before, and throughout, the summer.

Find out more and sign in here:

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)



JUNE 2024

Newsletter



ADHD course for Teachers, Parents and Related Professionals
**Now available as distance learning...
Complete in your own time!**

All sessions booked & delivered online via facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Tuesday
11 June

19:00 - 21:00
£24



**Introduction to OCD
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder**
Looking at the complexity of this serious condition.

Monday
17 June

19:00 - 21:00
£24



**Improving Family
Communication**
How to reduce the shouting and arguing and start the talking.

Thursday
20 June

19:00 - 21:00
£24



Supporting a Child with ADHD
Challenging the stereo types and explaining how this condition impacts on the child and giving ideas on how we can support them.

Thursday
27 June

19:00 - 21:00
FREE



Supporting Healthy Sleep
Coping with insomnia, screen damage, neurodiversity dysregulation.

facefamilyadvice.co.uk.

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Come and pick up a beautiful bargain

PROM WEAR Sale

at
Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge
Sonning Common, RG4 9LN

150 prom dresses in stock from £5-£70
Dress sizes 4-22 with 8 changing rooms
Plus shoes, accessories and suits
Cash and card accepted

SATURDAY 20 APRIL
SATURDAY 11 MAY
SATURDAY 08 JUNE
FROM 10AM-1PM

All funds raised go to Chiltern Edge School Association (CESA)

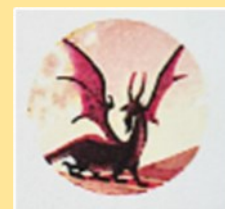


Highdown Bulletin

HIVE ROUNDUP

To celebrate the birthday of bestselling author Rick Riordan, famous for the fantasy series Percy Jackson, this month we are looking at book recommendations from the Fantasy section in the Hive.

Fantasy books have this sticker on their spine



eBooks and Audiobooks are available to all Highdowners at:

Percy Jackson The Lightening Thief – Rick Riordan

Look, I didn't want to be a half-blood. I never asked to be the son of a Greek God. I was just a normal kid, going to school, playing basketball, skateboarding. The usual. Until, I accidentally vaporized my maths teacher. That's when things started really going wrong. Now I spend my time fighting with swords, battling monsters with my friends, and generally trying to stay alive. This is the one where Zeus, God of the Sky, thinks I've stolen his lightning bolt - and making Zeus angry is a very bad idea.



Aru Shah and the End of Time – Roshani Chokshi

Twelve-year-old Aru Shah has a tendency to stretch the truth in order to fit in at school. When Aru's schoolmates dare her to prove that the museum's Lamp of Bharata is cursed, she doesn't think there's any harm in lighting it. Little does Aru know that lighting the lamp has dire consequences. She unwittingly frees the Sleeper, an ancient demon whose duty it is to awaken the God of Destruction. Her classmates and beloved mother are frozen in time, and, accompanied by a wise-cracking pigeon and her long-lost half-sister, it's up to Aru to save them.



Thieves Gambit – Kayvion Lewis – YA & 6th form read

Challenge: Join the Thieves' Gambit, a cut-throat competition to crown the world's greatest thief Rule 1: Never fall in love with your opponent Rule 2: The only thief you can trust is yourself Endgame: Win the heist to save your family - and yourself. Seventeen-year-old Rosalyn Quest was raised by a legendary family of thieves with one rule: trust no one. When her mother is kidnapped, her only chance to save her is to win the Thieves' Gambit – a deadly competition for the world's best thieves, where the victor is granted one wish.



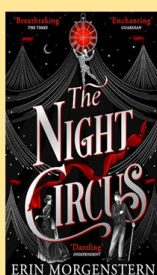
The Secret Garden – Frances Hodgson Burnett

In a grand house full of grief, an orphan makes hope bloom bright. When her parents die, Mary Lennox is sent to her uncle's mansion on the remote Yorkshire moors. The house is full of lingering sadness. But one day, Mary discovers a locked garden in the grounds: a secret haven, lost for years and years. Behind the gate is a magical place which will transform Mary's lonely life.



The Night Circus – Erin Morgenstern - eBook & audiobook

When Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong set up their very own secret detective agency at Deepdean School for Girls, they struggle to find any truly exciting mysteries. Little do they know that in the months that follow, mystery - and murder - will never be far away, and when Hazel discovers the Science Mistress, Miss Bell, lying dead in the Gym, the Detective Society is determined to get to the bottom of the crime.



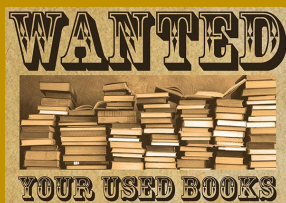
Skandar and the Unicorn Thief – AF Steadman – eBook

also available in the Hive

Perfect for fans of the Percy Jackson and Eragon series! Skandar Smith has always yearned to leave the Mainland and escape to the secretive Island, where wild unicorns roam free. He's spent years studying for his Hatchery exam, the annual test that selects a handful of Mainlander thirteen-year-olds to train to become unicorn riders. But on the day of Skandar's exam, things go horribly wrong, and his hopes are shattered...until a mysterious figure knocks on his door at midnight, bearing a message: the Island is in peril and Skandar must answer its call.



Are you having a clear out of books over the half term holiday?



If you are, please consider donating any books to the library at Highdown. Books need to be age appropriate for the students at Highdown and in good condition.

You never know, that book you have on the shelf may just be the book we are missing from a series, it could replace a book that has seen better days or provide an additional copy of a popular book. It could even be a book that we haven't yet got!

We have a number of posts available at Highdown, please click on the job roles below for more information or visit our website [HERE](#) to view all vacancies, including teaching roles.



Examinations Invigilator

£11.79 per hour, Flexible hours

Cleaner/Housekeeping

15 hours per week, Monday to Friday 3pm to 6pm. Morning shifts also available. £11.79 per hour.

Junior Site Controller

37 hours a week, full-time (part time/term time will be considered)
NJC P2-5. Full time salary:
£23,114-£23,500 pa

“(Highdown) has supported my personal and professional growth. During my time as an LSA, I have had the privilege of working alongside dedicated colleagues and extraordinary students. The experiences and relationships I have made here will undoubtedly have a lasting impact on my career.”

Senior Leisure Attendant

Part-time position, evenings and weekends. Up to £11.50ph dependent on experience and qualifications.

Learning Support Assistant

Full time, term time only, plus 2 staff training days. (NJC P3-P4)
Actual Salary: £14,968pa 8.30am to 3.15pm